NOTES FROM THE FIELD.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—We have just closed a series of meetings. Five came out on the Lord's side. More promised to come soon. More were made to believe that our doctrine was scriptural, as they never heard our doctrine before. I think there is prospect of building up a church here that will be an honor to the Brotherhood. Our meeting broke up with a crowded house and good interest. We organized a prayer meeting to meet every Thursday night. We organized our church here on the fourth of last August, with five members; now we number fourteen. Myself and wife moved here on the twenty-sixth of October. We are a happy little band. Father, although new in the ministry, preaches the word with power and does not shun to declare the whole truth. We expect to hold our communion in the spring and all are anxious to see us observe the ordinances as we do.

C. W. SNYDER.

Fennville, Mich.

ROSEBURG, OREGON.—I desire to say to the Brethren in Oregon (east of the coast range,) Washington, Idaho and Montana, I will be at liberty a few weeks this winter, and desire to spend that time in the service of our Master. I could perhaps visit such brethren or friends of the cause and preach for them, and so build up the cause, where our faith is not so well known. Any member or friend can address me at above place. I would like to hear from and correspond with such that desire the pure untrammeled gospel.

SAMUEL C. BASHOR.

The Tiosa Church, Ind.

Reference was made in the EVANGELIST some time ago, to my having gone to Tiosa, Ind., to help adjust some church difficulty in that church. When I came there I found it a little difficult to get at the bottom of the trouble, so I accompanied one of the brethren on a visit from house to house until we had visited nearly all the members, and inquired of them how to take hold of the work of adjustment. The result was, an appointment of a business meeting, at which the complainants might present their charges, and the church decide how she would settle the matter between them, whether by a church council, or by a committee; and if by the latter, then select the committee and set a day for the hearing, and in short, get ready for a big trial. However, when the announcement was made for said meeting, and again on the evening before the day appointed, I exhorted the members to strive to adjust their difficulties, and endeavored to prophecy to them how much better they would feel on the evening of that day, if they would settle their trouble than if they were to fix up for a pitched battle. This counsel seemed to have had some effect, for on the day appointed the church members turned out well, and all the business was transacted harmoniously.

The first business presented after the opening services and organization, by inviting me to act as moderator, was the following motion:

"In as much as some dissatisfaction has originated in the employment of brother J. W. Fitzgerald as our pastor; I move that that matter be reconsidered, and that he be hereby relieved of the care of this church as pastor."

This motion was unanimously adopted, the voting being done by ballott.

This did not look very much like division. Then a committee of three brethren, viz.: Albert Wooly, David Swinger and Charles Miller, was appointed to secure pastoral service for the church.

Then opportunity was given to present charges; but none were forthcoming. Then a series of preambles and resolutions was presented, the substance of which is, that they would renew their baptismal vows, forgive and forget the past, as though nothing of a personal nature had ever existed between them, and that all who voted for this measure or subscribed to it, should constitute the Brethren church of Tiosa. Nearly all present voted for it, and a general good feeling pervaded the entire assembly.

During the discussion of these resolutions, the question of fellowshipping Odd Fellows was sprung, when action was suspended and the following motion was adopted:

"Resolved that this church is opposed to secret, oath-bound societies, but we will bear with those who have been members of such organizations, and labor to prove to them that the church is better than any other society," or words to that effect.

I visited them again on the 11th and 12th, and find them doing pretty well, though the enemy is still trying to sow the seeds of discord. The question is being agitated, if Bro. Fitzgerald cannot preach at Tiosa, where he holds his membership, is he qualified to preach elsewhere? And, under our congregational form of government, how far should other Brethren churches honor the action of the Tiosa church? We have concluded that for the present, we would publish the action of the Tiosa church, and then other churches may act for themselves. Bro. Fitzgerald has also, since the business meeting, gone to the Secretary of the church and demanded his certificate of membership from the Bear Creek, Ohio, church, (and received it) for reasons which can only be conjectured. That certificate has never been deposited at South Bend.

I have consented to go to Tiosa occasionally during week days, until they can secure the services of a pastor among them.

God bless the Tiosa church and help them to surmount all their difficulties.

I have a Thanksgiving offering from the church, of $15.00, which I hope to report in full next week.

We are now snugly fixed at 706 S. Carroll St., South Bend, Ind, and are beginning to feel as if we would like to have some body come to see us, after the manner of Ashland, Berlin, Meyersdale, Tyrone, etc. We haven't much room, but have plenty of books and dishes and lots of hospitality. If Bro. Beer will come this way, we'll let him read from his old book-case and table, constructed by his skillful hands at old "Barline."

H. R. HOLSINGER.

The EVANGELIST, Investigator and Annual for $2.00.

Canaan, Ohio.

There are several of the brethren living in this vicinity, but as yet I believe we have not been represented by a correspondent. We are unorganized, going about as so many scattered sheep having no shepherd.

I notice in the EVANGELIST that Bro. Brown and the brethren at Fair Haven had a two weeks' meeting at that place. This is our nearest place to where brethren preaching is held forth, a distance of about twelve miles, with the mighty Killbuck hills between us. Nevertheless, if our good brethren had made known to us that they were having a series of meetings, sleighing being splendid, we undoubtedly would have ventured to cross the hills and listened to what the preacher had to say, and would thus have been encouraged also. I presume we are not blamed were I to say we feel just a little slighted. But since I have not seen any of the other members here, I must speak of my own experience only. However, I am glad indeed that the meeting at Fair Haven was a success and that the brethren there feel good.

But why does Bro. Brown or Bro. Kieffer not come to see us at times? If we, on this side of the Killbuck, are so constituted, that it is useless to attempt to organize a church here, a friendly visit by some of the brethren would do us good. Is it not appropriate that the keeper of the sheep visit the flocks by the wayside at times and give at least some attention to their welfare?

Bro. Brown please come and give us something, if it is only the lecture of your trip to California. If you will state that you are coming, I will try to make the necessary arrangements and the money taken at the door above expenses, shall be disposed of to your direction.

J. B. YODER.

Dayton, Ohio.

Jan. 9, 1887.—This day the Dayton Brethren Sabbath School elected the following officers for the ensuing year: J. W. Eversole, Superintendent; G. W. Folkerth, Ass't Superintendent; Hugh More, Secretary; Lillian Arndt, Organist.

S. KIEHL.

Downsville, Md.

We dedicated to the worship of God, our new church building at St. James, Washington Co., Dec. 26th, 1886, and also began a series of meetings on the evening of same day.

Brother E. B. Shaver, of Maurertown, Va., came to us and preached fifteen sermons. He labored earnestly and faithfully in preaching the doctrine of Christ as practiced and understood by the brethren, freed from the traditions and commandments of men. We, as a church, had been grossly misrepresented in that neighborhood, but we think Bro. Shaver entirely erased such false impressions from the minds of the people, clearly stating to them our doctrine and church government, and that we had not departed from the doctrine of the Primitive Church, but have only withdrawn from those who are controlled by Annual Meeting, and who have not taken the New Testament as their guide in faith and practice. Much interest was manifested as was shown by the large congregations and good attention.

Results of the meeting were 13 additions; 10 by baptism, and 3 by relation.

Bro. Isaac Bowman, of Va., was also with us during the meeting, and conducted the singing and preached one sermon. He is young in years and is a zealous worker in our Master's cause. We now have a membership of twenty in this congregation, and expect it will soon increase, as others were almost persuaded to come during the meeting.

We entreat the brethren every where to pray for us that we may be "strong in the Lord and in the power of his might." We pray that our faith may be strengthened and that we may all live faithful until death.

A. H. BETTS.

Notes By The Way.

Our meetings at Fair View closed with 12 additions and a good interest. The number added is not as large as at some places, but it is gratifying to all to know that they will make useful members.

Bro. E. H. Smith, of Plumville, Pa., assisted us in these meetings and he is a workman who needeth not be ashamed of his work; and I want to say to the Brethren church at large, that he is an able and fearless advocate of our creed and is ready to respond to any call or calls he may receive.

On the evening of Jan. 1st, as we were preparing for our meeting, we were surprised to see four sleds and a sleigh drive up to our door and before your scribe could collect his wits, there was a rush and such a stack of the good things of life as they brought, is hard to describe, and we cried, not because we were cross, but it occurred to our minds that we were so unworthy of such kindness. To add more to our surprise, on our way to church we passed another sled filled with eatables for the preacher, and still another one came filled. All I could say was God bless the members of the Conemaugh church. And by the grace of God I shall do my best to merit your kindness and love.

Our council on Jan. 6, 1887, passed off pleasantly and your servant has accepted the pastorate for another year.

J. W. SMOUSE.

Things In General, Some Things In Particular.

Live Coals Given Away.—Live Coals is the name of a book containing the writings of Dr. Talmage, nearly eight hundred pages, illustrated. It has some grand good things in it. The retail price is $2. I will send a copy free to any one selling us fifteen copies of The Church Members Hand Book, and sending us $1.50. This remarkable offer is limited to the first edition of 2000 copies. Books are on hand ready to ship immediately. You sell the H. B., and we absolutely give you Live Coals.

An Out Line Of The H. B.—It contains 60 pages of reading matter, three illustrations, and fifty articles. The first cut in the book is worth the small sum for which the book sells. It shows at a glance the number of mankind according to their religion. It quickens my pulse when I look at it, and creates within me a greater desire to seek and to save the lost. The cut of two hands, showing a plan to remember the names and order of the books of the Bible is valuable. I obtained it through the kindness of Mrs. Frank Leslie. The third cut is a temperance sermon, and if you are in favor of rum selling you will not like it. The fifty articles are on a variety of subjects of interest to church members, hints, directions, etc. Our orders cover about a thousand copies, so if you want a copy of Live Coals, it would be well to attend to the matter soon.

Our work at St. James.—We had one member living at St. James, a young sister and three members living at Downsville, four miles away, all four my spiritual children. Not many to commence a church, but what we lacked in members and pocket, we made up in faith and grit, and went to work. Other members in Hagerstown, Funkstown and elsewhere came nobly to our help, and to day we worship under our own vine and fig tree. The meeting gave us thirteen additions, more will come. Our prospects are good, and we want to see continual success perch upon our banner. Bro. Shaver preached, Bro. Bowman instructed in singing and gave us several sermons which were appreciated by the large congregations. We thank our brethren for their help, and hope to have them again.

Doctrinal Preaching.—St. James needs plenty of good sound doctrine. The conservatives who are opposed to us have spread the report that we are loose on doctrine and some noble men and women are now standing out waiting to see if we are doctrinal or not. Some have been convinced and some have not been, and had our doctrinal position been more clearly set forth in the beginning I believe even greater success would have attended our efforts. Some places do not need doctrinal preaching as much as others. St. James, is one of the places that needs it, and if any weak-kneed soul is afraid to stand up for what his church practices and wants, he had better go some where else with his sentimental nonsense. Again we thank Shaver and Bowman for standing to the work like men. Much rubbish has been removed, many warm friends made, and new waves started which will only break on the eternal shore. May we all meet there. I am now off for Philadelphia.

JOHN DUKE.

Providence is like a curious piece of needle-work made up of a thousand shreds, which, singly, we know not what to make of, but put together in order, they represent a beautiful history to the eye.—Flavel.

No occupation is so holy that the devil will not tempt us right in the midst of it, and no name is so sacred that he will not try to use it to cover his vile ends.—Mrs. E. T. Morgan.

I never knew a man to be saved through a brilliant argument. You can not hook men into the kingdom by the horns of a dilemma. There is no grace in syllogisms.—Talmage.

The Annual.

The Brethren Annual is distinctly a church document this year. It contains 40 pages, and will be mailed to any address at the following prices:

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